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Transcripts Said to Show Wick Taped Journalists

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WASHINGTON, Jan. 9 — The director of the United States Information Agency, Charles Z. Wick, today gave two Congressional panels 81 transcripts and four tape recordings of his telephone conversations as well as notes from 83 conversations.

The transcripts included conversations Mr. Wick had with the acting chairman of one of the committees, and with two television journalists, Walter Cronkite and Sander Vanocur, a committee member who saw the transcripts said.

At the same time, Mr. Wick acknowledged in a written statement that he had given "misinformation" about his practice of tape recording telephone calls without always informing the other party.

In his statement, Mr. Wick's first comment on his secretly taped telephone conversations since he denied the practice, then acknowledged it two weeks ago, he said that "my anxiety and faulty recollection" had resulted in the "early confusion."

The transcripts were delivered today to the House Foreign Affairs Committee and the Senate Foreign Relations Committee in two black binders by the agency's general counsel, Thomas E. Harvey, and Mr. Wick visited both panels today. The information agency, which runs the Voice of America, disseminates information about the United States abroad.

'A Very Dumb Thing'

In comments after visiting the Senate panel, Mr. Wick said: "I did a very dumb thing. Now I can see that."

In his statement he said he now understood that "taping of others without their consent is unfair, invades their privacy and can lead to other, more dangerous practices." He asserted that he had used "recording equipment in the way others use written notes."

Mr. Vanocur, a correspondent for ABC News, and Mr. Cronkite, the former CBS News anchor, were taped by Mr. Wick, according to a person who saw the transcripts.

The transcripts included a conversation Mr. Wick held with the acting chairman of the House committee, Representative Dante P. Fascell, a committee aide said.

The discussion, in February last year, before Mr. Fascell, a Florida Democrat, became acting chairman, involved the agency's budget over

which Mr. Fascell's subcommittee has jurisdiction, the aide said.

Other transcripts included conversations with "prominent Government and media people," a member of one of the two committees, who asked to remain anonymous, said after viewing them.

A committee aide said staff members, after an initial review, had concluded that "most" of the transcripts, notes and tapes were made without permission from the other party.

Mr. Harvey asked the House committee to classify the transcripts and tapes as "executive session material," which then could not be released publicly until the U.S.I.A. agreed, a committee staff member said.

The request, contained in a letter that Mr. Harvey wanted the committee staff to sign, was refused, the aide said. He said none of the material was classified on national security grounds.

Access to Material Limited

But in respect to Mr. Wick's "right to privacy," the committee was allowing only a few staff aides and members of the committee to review the material until it was determined what was in it, the committee aide said.

Mr. Wick, who met with the House committee staff for two hours, was asked whether he had taped President Reagan, Mrs. Reagan or William J. Casey, the Director of Central Intelligence, the aide said. Mr. Wick denied ever taping any of them, the aide said.

President Reagan strongly backed Mr. Wick last Friday, saying he could understand how Mr. Wick had forgot-

and Congressman

ten always to inform his callers of the taping.

Among those Mr. Wick is known to have secretly recorded are the White House chief of staff, James A. Baker 3d; Walter Raymond, a member of the National Security Council; Kenneth L. Adelman, director of the Arms Control and Disarmament Agency; and two members of his staff, Casper Weinberger Jr., and John Hedges, who have since left the staff.